

## **ABSTRACT**

The invention relates to a covering agent for a top slag of a metallic melt bath in a metallurgical vessel, in particular used in the steel industry, containing a material which melts on the melt bath and performs metallurgical work, wherein the material substantially comprises granules which have been rendered porous and the porosity of which is such that, at the melt bath temperature, a molten layer of liquid slag is formed on the melt bath, and a thermal barrier layer of the granules is formed above the molten layer of liquid slag. In addition, the invention relates to a process for producing the covering agent and to its use.